

Black man Arrested On Vagrancy Charges Takes Case To U.S. Supreme Court

Edward Lawson, 36, arrested 15 times in San Diego on a state vagrancy law, appeared before the U.S. Supreme Court Monday to contest those arrests. Though he was deprived of his right to argue his own case and plans to sue his American Civil Liberties Union lawyer, he sat quietly in the courtroom as his case was argued.

The court conflict began five years ago, when then 31-year-old Lawson was arrested for refusing to identify himself to police while walking in a white up-

perclass neighborhood in San Diego late at night. The arrest was made under a state vagrancy law which lets police stop people and request identification in the interest of public safety.

Lawson, a tall thin man, who wears his shoulder-length hair in many braids, proceeded to defy the law, refused to stop strolling through the white neighborhoods, and was consequently arrested 15 times during the next 22 months.

Mark Rosenbaum, Lawson's lawyer, told

the Supreme Court justices in the courtroom that the state law "causes forfeiture of privacy and mobility" and places an "eternal passport requirement" on California residents.

However, A. Wells Peterson, California deputy attorney general, urged the justices to uphold the state law countering that all the law requires is "pedigree" information, namely: name and address.

The court will probably not rule on the case until early 1983.

Historical Bonds and Warrants On Sale To Nevadans

The State of Nevada announced today the sale of historical bonds and warrants to Nevada residents. The bonds and warrants were issued from 1864 through the end of that century.

Price of the warrants range from \$3 to \$35

and the bonds from \$40 to \$350 depending on the issue.

A description and price list can be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the Nevada State Purchasing Division, Capitol Complex, Carson Ci-

ty, Nevada 89710. The items will be sold to Nevada residents on a "first come, first served" basis.

According to State Officials, samples of all documents are being retained by the Division of Archives and other agencies for historical reference.

General Membership Meeting Set For Sunday

THREE NAACP LEADERS OUSTED RECENTLY FROM LOCAL CHAPTER

"Seven to nine members" of the 32-member board of directors of the Las Vegas branch of the NAACP ousted three leaders of the organization during their October 26 meeting at the chapter's headquarters located in the Nucleus Plaza Shopping Center on West Owens Avenue for alleged impropriety.

The group dismissed the chapter president Lovell Gaines, vice president Rev. Sam Roberson and treasurer Sherman Hatcher. Gaines was not present at that meeting.

Spokesman Roberson said some of the board members were notified of October meeting but that a majority of the members had no been reached. Roberson chaired that meeting. When the board action sought to remove Gaines, Roberson advised those

present that if Gaines was to be ousted, he did not want the chair and asked that his name be included with those released.

Gaines, in a Las Vegas Sun release on Wednesday, said he and two other officers were ousted by "a bunch of thugs" disgruntled with his leadership. He confirmed the six members changed the locks on the doors of the chapter's headquarters.

Gaines said he was still in charge of the chapter and still its official spokesman.

Virna Canson, regional director of the NAACP, was reported as saying Gaines had been illegally removed from his position by the board members since their action "was not consistent with the bylaws which govern

the government of local chapters.

A general membership meeting will be held Sunday, November 14 in the Zion United Methodist Church's dining room at 4 p.m. The Branch Nominating Committee will report its recommendations of candidates for Branch officers. It was reported that branch members will have an opportunity to nominate other candidates.

The election is slated for December with each elected officer holding office for two years, 1983 and 1984.

In addition to the Branch business, information regarding national and local NAACP issues will be discussed by Virna Canson and William H. Penn, Sr., National Office Director, Branch and Field Services, based in New York.

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"I know 'Thank-You' is not a sufficient word to adequately express our gratitude to the thousands and thousands of you who supported my candidacy, and entrusted me with your vote. I can only promise you that I will work with unswerving vigor, honesty and dedication to serve the best interests of this great state of ours, and to merit that trust you have placed in me."

Richard H. Bryan
RICHARD BRYAN



BRYAN

GOVERNOR

DEMOCRAT

COMMITTEE TO ELECT RICHARD BRYAN GOVERNOR